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## **Sen. Gilbert urges federal government to help protect veterans from identity theft**

**LANSING** – Sen. Jud Gilbert this week introduced a resolution urging the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to provide all veterans access to credit rating agencies to secure personal information against identity theft.

This comes in the wake of personal data on millions of veterans and other military personnel being stolen recently.

“While the federal government has launched investigations to find this stolen information and let veterans know about the loss, this is not enough,” Gilbert said. “It is crucial that veterans have free and prompt access to private credit rating services to protect and prevent their personal information from being used by criminals.”

Certain personal information on nearly 26.5 million veterans was stolen from an employee of the Department of Veterans Affairs who removed the data from the VA without authorization. The stolen data includes the names, Social Security numbers, disability ratings and dates of birth of the veterans.

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